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EXCISE

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ACTION SCT-03

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	ACDE-00	AID-01	ARA-01	A-01	CA-02
	CCO-00	CG-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00	C-01	OASY-00
	DODE-00	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	DS-00	EB-01	FAAE-00	FBIE-00
	HA-09	H-01	IMMC-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	INSE-00	LAB-01
	L-01	ADS-00	M-00	NRCE-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-06
	OIS-01	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	SNP-00
	SP-00	SSO-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	USSS-00
	ASDS-01	PMB-00	/052W				

-----3C7337 152043Z /38

R 151648Z APR 94  
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0471  
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA  
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.  
( ) Release (X) Excise ( ) Deny ( ) Declassify  
Date 2/27/02 Exemption 1.5d

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 01 OF 02 SAN JOSE 02648

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR  
TAGS: PTER, CJAN, PREL, CS  
SUBJECT: ANALYSIS OF LA PENCA COMMISSION REPORT

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.  
( ) Classify as ( ) Extend as ( ) Downgrade to Conf  
Date 2/27/02 Declassify on 4/15/19 Reason 1.5d

REF: SAN JOSE 2526

1. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. REFTEL SUMMARIZED NEWSPAPER REPORTS OF THE LA  
PENCA INVESTIGATING COMMISSION REPORT RELEASED ON

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APRIL 7. WE HAVE NOW HAD TIME TO GO OVER THE ENTIRE  
202-PAGE REPORT AND A BRIEF ANALYSIS FOLLOWS:

--DESPITE 75 COMMISSION SESSIONS OVER NEARLY FOUR  
YEARS, THE REPORT BREAKS LITTLE GROUND NOT ALREADY  
EXPLORED BY THE MIAMI HERALD LAST YEAR. IN FACT, THE  
REPORT DRAWS FREQUENTLY FROM THE HERALD AND IS  
HEAVILY PADDED WITH WELL-KNOWN BACKGROUND MATERIAL ON  
CENTRAL AMERICA, INCLUDING FROM THE KISSINGER  
REPORT. MUCH OF THE MATERIAL HAS LONG BEEN AVAILABLE  
FROM OTHER PUBLIC SOURCES.

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3. REACTIONS: THE POSSIBILITIES FOR READING INTO THE REPORT WHAT ONE WANTS TO BELIEVE ARE DEMONSTRATED BY LOCAL REACTIONS TO THE REPORT.

--JORGE CHAVARRIA GUZMAN, THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, WAS INTERVIEWED BY LA NACION ON APRIL 8. HE SAID THAT HIS OFFICE WAS CONTINUING ITS INVESTIGATION INTO THE CASE AND WAS NOT CONVINCED THAT THE SANDINISTAS WERE BEHIND THE ATTACK. HE INSISTED ON HIS ORIGINAL THESIS, THAT THE CIA WAS IN SOME AS-YET-UNDEFINED WAY LINKED TO THE BOMBING. AS TO THE LEFTIST TIES OF GAGUINE, HE NOTED THAT "THE USE OF DOUBLE AGENTS WAS VERY COMMON." CHAVARRIA CONCLUDED THAT THE COMMISSION'S REPORT NEITHER MODIFIED NOR CONTRADICTED THE INVESTIGATION OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE. CHAVARRIA ALSO RAISED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE COMPLICITY OF THE SANDINISTAS AND EXPRESSED DOUBTS ABOUT THE FINGERPRINTS OF HANSEN FOUND IN PANAMA AS THEY WERE

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ONLY FOUND EIGHT YEARS AFTER THE LA PENCA BOMBING AND  
AFTER THE U.S. INTERVENTION IN PANAMA.

--THE LEAD LA NACION (CONSERVATIVE) EDITORIAL ON

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APRIL 11 ACCEPTED THE GENERAL CONCLUSIONS OF THE  
REPORT. HOWEVER, IT STILL CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY  
THAT THE CIA, THROUGH MANUEL NORIEGA, WHO ALSO HAD  
CLOSE TIES TO THE SANDINISTAS, WAS SOMEHOW INVOLVED  
IN THE BOMBING. THE EDITORIAL ALSO GENERALLY  
SUPPORTED CHAVARRIA'S REFUSAL TO DISMISS  
POSSIBILITIES OTHER THAN THE SANDINISTAS.

4. A COPY OF THE REPORT IS BEING POUCHED TO  
ARA/CEN:EFARNSWORTH UNDER REGISTRY NUMBER 7690713.

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